

Gender and Women's Studies

Gender and Women's studies contributes to a liberal arts education by enhancing students' understanding of women's history, experiences, and modes of expression, as well as the ways women and men respond to cultural assumptions about gender. Students begin to understand how cultural institutions such as government, law, school, church, business and science operate through power hierarchies based on sex, race, social class, sexuality and other kinds of difference. They are also encouraged to learn about and practice activist responses to current conditions in the academy and the community. Women's Studies enables students to think through the personal, academic and work-related issues they confront regularly, and to imagine ways of transforming their worlds.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Government Communications/Journalism	Women's issues coordinator	Public information coordinator
Census/survey work	Peace Corps volunteer	Public opinion analyst
Researcher/technical adviser	Editor	Journalist
Human Services Business/Industry	Women's issues advocate	Social worker
Non-governmental agencies worker	Youth counselor	Volunteer services coordinator
Community planning specialist	Women's programming	Personnel officer
Market research analyst	Sales/marketing representative	Organizational planner
Management trainee	Consultant, cultural resource manager	Arts council director
Foundation administrator	Environmental consultant	Research/Preservation Education
Exhibit preparation coordinator	Librarian	Conservator
Research associate	Teacher	Resource consultant
School administrator		

NOTE: Some of the listed career options may require additional education and/or training beyond the bachelor's degree.

COMPETENCIES

Human Relations Communications
Awareness of gender, race and other differences

Sensitivity to people and problems
Understanding and interpreting global cultures
Listening to others' thoughts and ideas
Gathering information
Speaking to groups
Writing clearly and creatively
Critiquing and evaluating
Issues/problems/ events
Reading and understanding ideas
Project Development/Research Thinking Critically/Creatively
Designing projects
Organizing ideas/materials
Testing an idea/hypothesis
Observing people
Planning and administering programs
Perceiving patterns and structures
Evaluating projects and plans
Adapting ideas Analyzing cultural events and texts
Testing and exploring ideas in discussion with others
Problem posing/problem solving
Developing new agendas for old problems
Connecting with communities

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Students may choose to continue their education in Women's Studies at the Master's or Ph.D. level, choose a professional school in law, business or medicine, or move into a disciplinary graduate program in political science, history, religious studies, sociology, psychology, art history, music, family studies, journalism, English, education, languages or other fields.

EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Summer and/or part-time work with government agencies, law offices, women's advocacy programs, historical associations and foundations, research institutions, museums, art galleries, and community cultural programs, public archives and libraries, publishing companies, newspapers, magazines, theatrical or musical organizations.